REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

In response to the Examiner's suggestion, references cited in the specification and presently at hand are attached together with a Form PTO-SB/08a. The IDS fee for this stage of prosecution is also attached. Official citation and consideration of these references is respectfully requested.

In response to the drawing objections based on reference signs allegedly found in the specification text but not in the drawings, typographical corrections have been made at pages 17, line 13 and 34, line 21 so as to obviate those two instances. The other reference numerals not found in the drawings have simply been deleted from the specification text. Accordingly, this ground of objection is believed to have been overcome.

In response to the further objection to the drawings/specification because of reference characters allegedly found in the drawings but not mentioned in the text, the specification has been suitably amended so as to also obviate this ground of objection.

As the Examiner will also notice, the drawings have been amended otherwise so as to put them in more traditional US format and condition.

In response to the Examiner's objection based on unexplained acronyms, the specification has been reviewed and suitable explanation added so as to obviate this ground of objection.

Embedded Hyperlinks have also been removed as requested in accordance with standard USPTO procedure.

A new more descriptive title has also been effected by the above amendment as requested.

In response to the objection to claims 25-27 under 37 C.F.R. §1.75(c), these claims have also been amended above so as to avoid this ground of rejection.

In response to the rejection of claims 4, 7 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, these claims have been amended above as suggested by the Examiner to obviate this ground of objection.

Accordingly, it is believed that all outstanding formal issues have now been resolved in the applicant's favor.

The rejection of claims 1-31 under 35 U.S.C. §102 as allegedly anticipated by Ohno EP '536 is respectfully traversed.

It will be noted that independent claims 1 and 28 have been above amended. Basis for this amendment can be found in the original application documents. For example, see the last paragraph at page 11, the second paragraph at page 16, the paragraph bridging pages 19-20, the third paragraph at page 21, the second paragraph on page 29 and the entirety of page 30 (as well as original claims 6-9).

In Ohno, there are two operating systems OS-A and OS-B has a higher priority than (OS-A. An inter-operating system control software is provided for switching between OS-A and OS-B. Interrupts are forwarded by the inter-operating system control software either to OS-A or OS-B for interrupt handling.

There are four different scenarios:

> If OS-A is in operation, (1) an interrupt intended for OS-A is forwarded to OS-A, and (2) if an interrupt is intended for OS-B, it is forwarded to OS-B.
>
> If OS-B is in operation, (3) an interrupt intended for OS-A is masked because of the higher priority of OS-B, and if an interrupt is intended for OS-B, it is forwarded to OS-B.

In other words, the inter-operating system control software "decides which of OS-A or OS-B is to handle interrupts.

In contrast, the presently claimed invention requires all interrupts to be processed by one of the operating systems -- namely the one with the highest priority. As is described, for example, in the last paragraph on description page 11, the hardware resource dispatcher (i.e., the common program) passes all interrupts to the interrupt handling routines of the critical (high priority) operating system, which either deals with the interrupt (if it was intended for the critical operating system) or passes it back to the hardware resource dispatcher for forwarding to a non-critical (lower priority) operating system (if that was here it was destined).

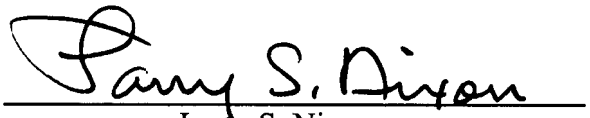
In other words, whereas in Ohno the inter-operating system control software controls which operating system handles interrupts, in the present invention this control resides in the high priority operating system. The common program of the present invention serves "merely" to pass all interrupts to the high priority operating system but does not control which of the operating systems is to handle interrupts.

In view of these fundamental deficiencies of Ohno with respect to features already noted, it is not believed necessary at this time to detail the additional deficiencies of this reference with respect to other features of the rejected claims.

Accordingly, this entire application is now believed to be in allowable condition and a formal Notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: 
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ANNOTATED MARKED UP DRAWINGS
FOR S/N 10/665,352

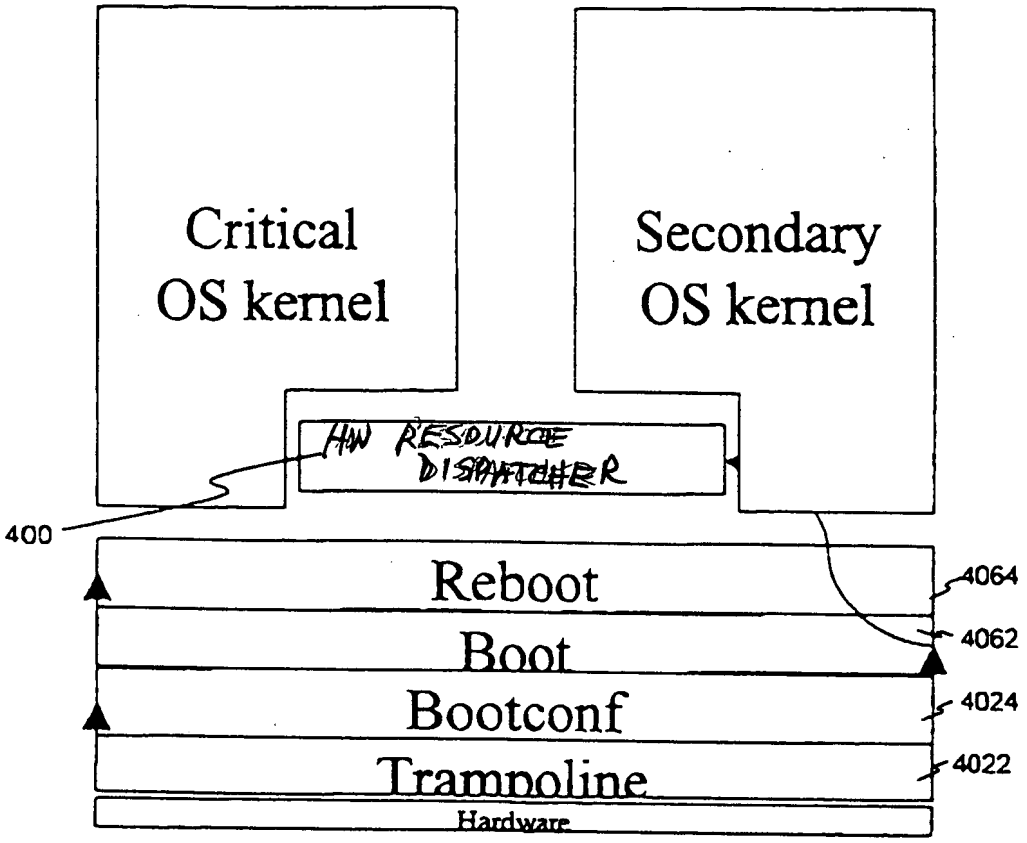

FIG. 5

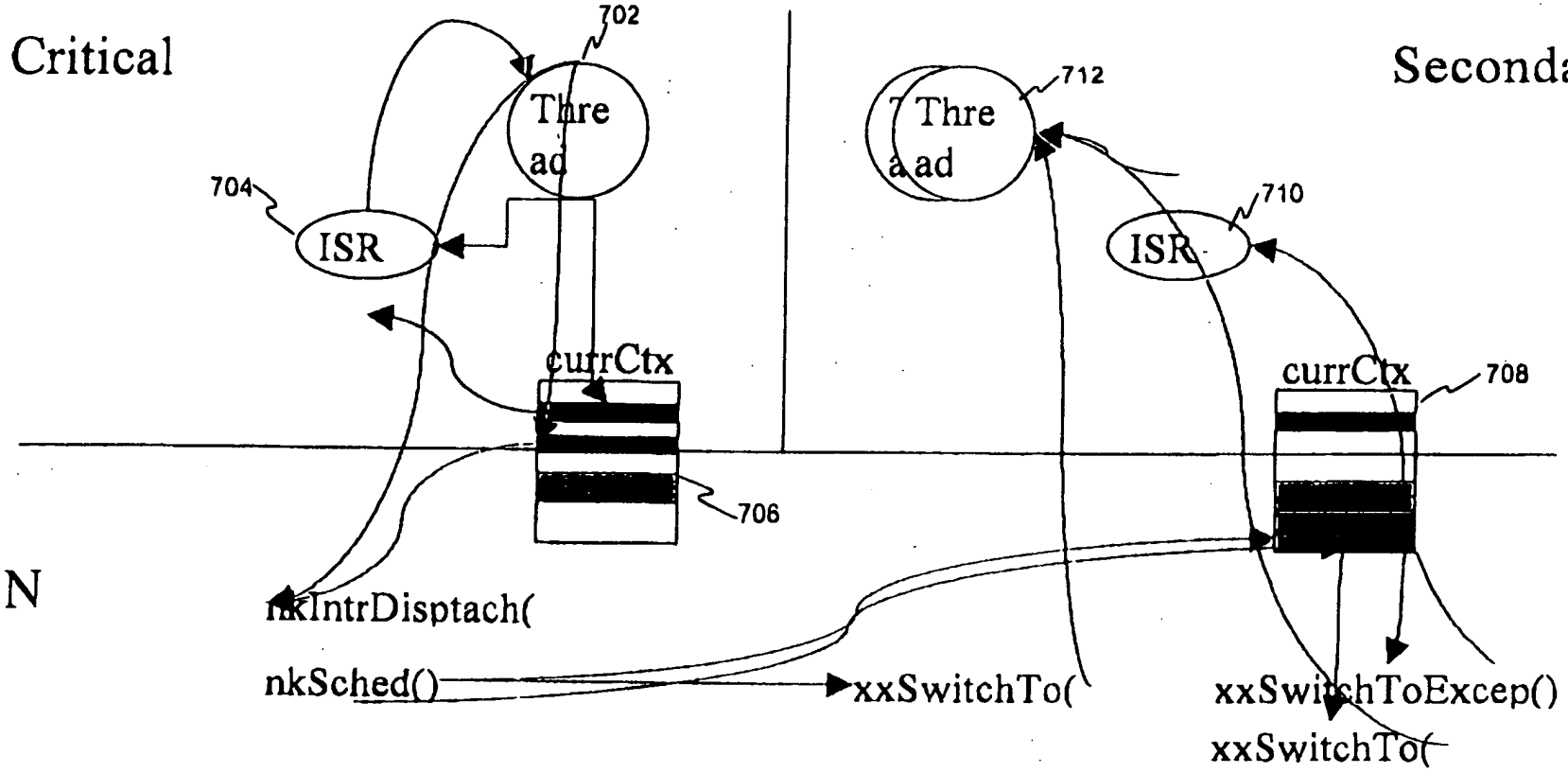

FIG. 7

remove obj. shading

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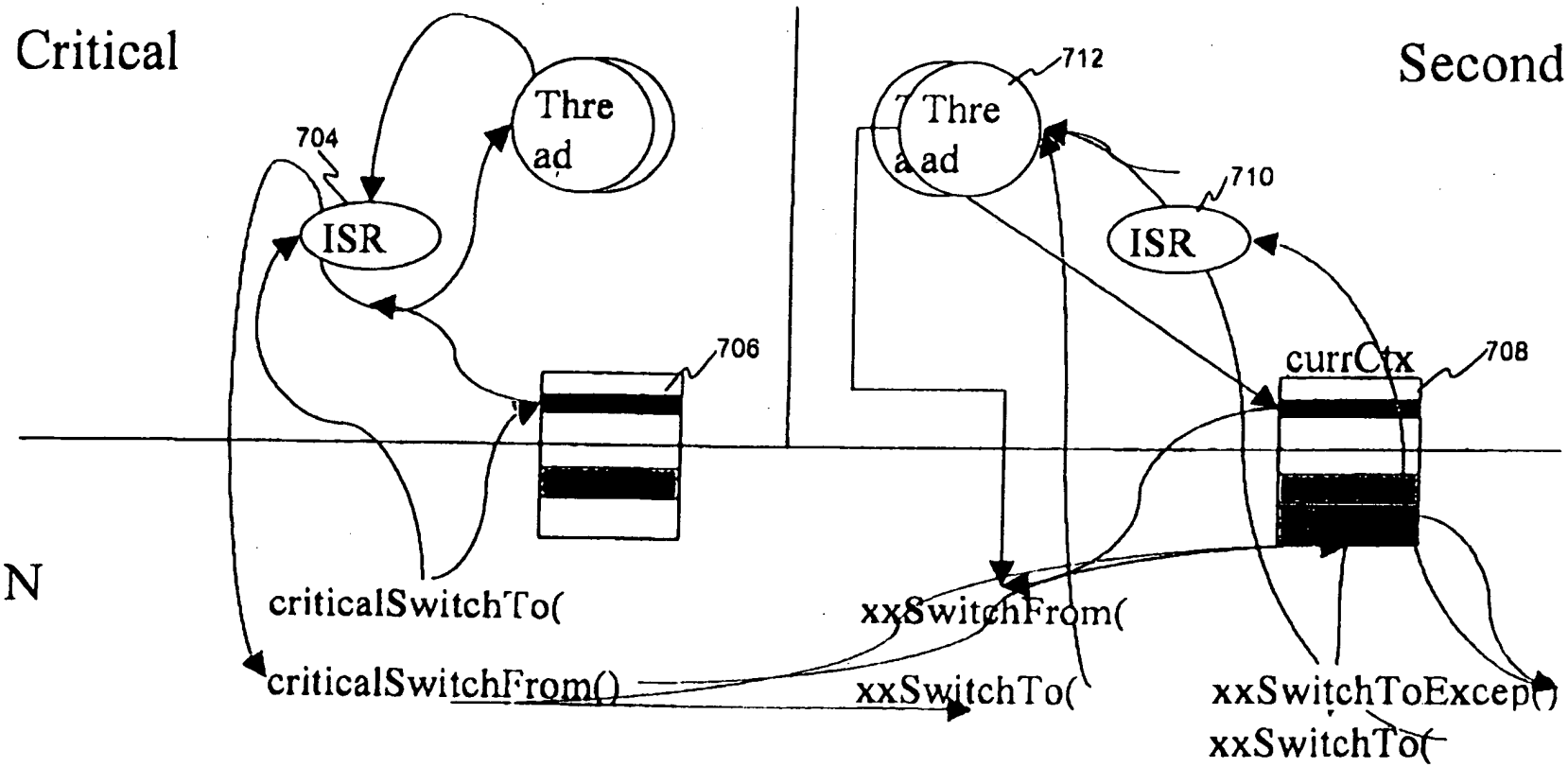

FIG. 8

remove obj shading

8/9

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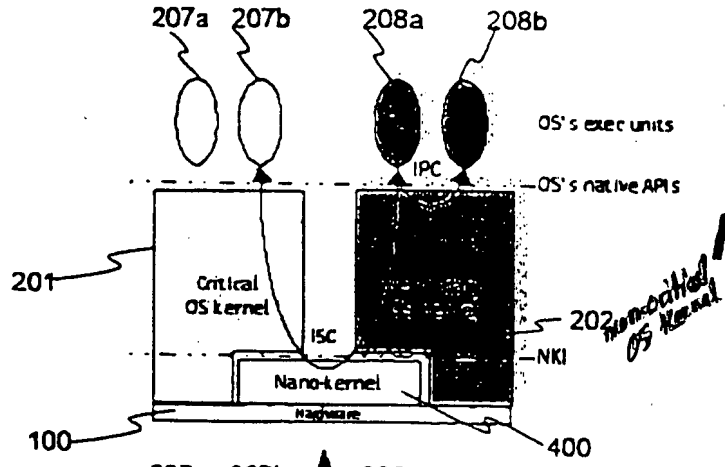

FIG. 9a

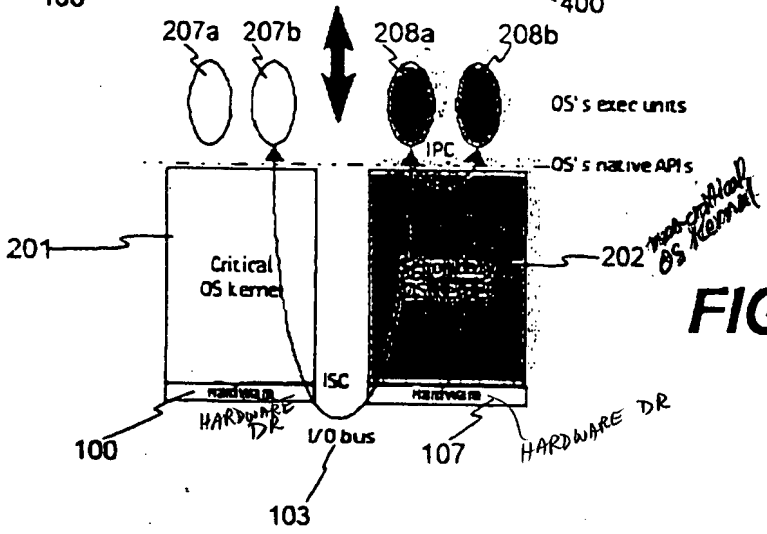

FIG. 9b

remove shading